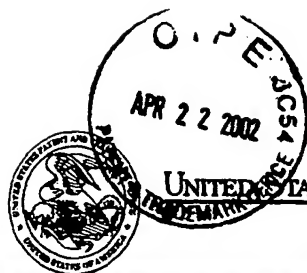


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#3



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

 COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/082,459	02/25/2002	Ronald E. Sweatman	HES 2000-IP-001848

CONFIRMATION NO. 4431

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC00000007692805

 C. Clark Dougherty, Jr.
 Two Leadership Square
 10th Floor
 211 N. Robinson
 Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Date Mailed: 03/21/2002

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is missing.
A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(l) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 130.

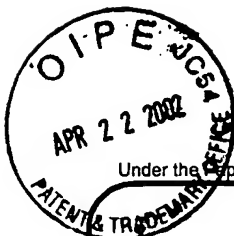
*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

SEIOW
 Customer Service Center
 Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

04/23/2002 SDENB0B1 00000094 080300 10082459

01 FC:105 130.00 CH



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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Applicati n Number	10/082,459
Filing Date	02/25/2002
First Named Inventor	Ronald E. Sweatman
Group Art Unit	1712
Examiner Name	unknown
Attorney Docket Number	HES 2000-IP-001848

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 19

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☐ Fee Attached
- ☐ Amendment / Reply
- ☐ After Final
- ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☒ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
- ☒ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- ☒ Assignment Papers (for an Application)
- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____

- ☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):

Return Postcard
Power of Attorney
Statement under 3.73(b)

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm
or
Individual name

Craig W. Roddy

Signature

Craig W. Roddy

Date

4-10-02

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

04/10/2002

Typed or printed name

Sheila Gibbs

Signature

Sheila Gibbs

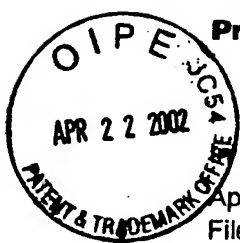
Date

04/10/2002

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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43



Practitioner Docket No. HES 2000-IP-001848

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of: Ronald E. Sweatman et al.

Application No.: 10 / 082,459 Group No.: 1712

Filed: February 25, 2002 Examiner: unknown

For: Methods of Discovering and Correcting Subterranean Formation Integrity Problems During Drilling

Box Missing Part.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

COMPLETION OF FILING REQUIREMENTS
— NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

(check and complete this item, if applicable)

- I. ☒ This replies to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1533) mailed March 21, 2002

NOTE: If these papers are filed before the office letter issues, adequate identification of the original papers should be made, e.g., in addition to the name of the inventor and title of invention, the filing date based on the "Express Mail" procedure, the serial number from the return post card or the attorney's docket number added.

- ☒ A copy of the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application—Filing Date Granted (Form PTO-1533) is enclosed.

NOTE: The PTO requires that a copy of Form PTO-1533 be returned with the response to the notice to file missing parts to the application.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10*

(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is mandatory;
Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

- ☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

37 C.F.R. § 1.10 *

- ☒ with sufficient postage as first class mail.

☐ as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"

Mailing Label No. _____ (mandatory)

TRANSMISSION

- ☐ facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (703) _____

Sheila Gibbs

Signature

Date: 04/10/02

Sheila Gibbs

(type or print name of person certifying)

* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

(Completion of Filing Requirements— Nonprovisional Application [5-1]—page 1 of 6)

DECLARATION OATH

- II. ☒ No declaration or oath was filed. Enclosed is the original declaration or oath for this application.

NOTE: If the correct inventor or inventors are not named on filing a nonprovisional application under § 1.53(b) without an executed oath or declaration under § 1.63, the later submission of an executed oath or declaration under § 1.63 during the pendency of the application will act to correct the earlier identification of inventorship. 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(f)(1).

OR

- ☐ The declaration or oath that was filed was determined to be defective. A new original oath or declaration is attached.

NOTE: For surcharge fee for filing declaration after filing date complete item VI(3) below.

NOTE: "The following combinations of information supplied in an oath or declaration filed after the filing date are acceptable as minimums for identifying a specification and compliance with any one of the items below will be accepted as complying with the identification requirement of 37 C.F.R. § 1.63:

"(A) application number (consisting of the series code and the serial number, e.g., 08/123,456);

"(B) serial number and filing date;

"(C) attorney docket number which was on the specification as filed;

"(D) title which was on the specification as filed and reference to an attached specification which is both attached to the oath or declaration at the time of execution and submitted with the oath or declaration; or

"(E) title which was on the specification as filed and accompanied by a cover letter accurately identifying the application for which it was intended by either the application number (consisting of the series code and the serial number, e.g., 08/123,456), or serial number and filing date. Absent any statement(s) to the contrary, it will be presumed that the application filed in the PTO is the application which the inventor(s) executed by signing the oath or declaration."

M.P.E.P. § 601.01(a), 7th Ed.

NOTE: Another minimum found acceptable in the declaration is the filing date (i.e., date of express mail) and the express mail number, useful where the serial number is not yet known. But note the practice where the express mail deposit is a Saturday, Sunday or holiday within the District of Columbia. 37 C.F.R. § 1.10(c).

(complete (c) or (d), if applicable)

Attached is a

- (c) ☐ Statement by a registered attorney that the application filed in the PTO is the application that the inventor executed by signing the declaration.
- (d) ☐ Statement that the "attached" specification is a copy of the specification and any amendments thereto that were filed in the PTO to obtain the filing date.

AMENDMENT CANCELLING CLAIMS

- III. ☐ Cancel claims _____ inclusive.

**TRANSMITTAL F ENGLISH TRANSLATION
F NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPERS**

- IV. ☐ Submitted herewith is an English translation of the non-English language application papers as originally filed. Also submitted herewith is a statement by the translator of the accuracy of the translation. It is requested that this translation be used as the copy for examination purposes in the PTO.

NOTE: For fee processing a non-English application, complete item VI(5) below.

NOTE: A non-English oath or declaration in the form provided by the PTO need not be translated. 37 C.F.R. § 1.69(b).

SMALL ENTITY STATUS

V.

- a. ☐ An assertion that this filing is by a small entity

(check and complete applicable items)

- ☐ is attached.
☐ was filed on _____ (original).
☐ was made by paying the basic filing fee as a small entity.
☐ is being made now by paying the basic filing fee as a small entity.

- b. ☐ A separate refund request accompanies this paper.

COMPLETION FEES

VI.

WARNING: Failure to submit the surcharge fees where required will cause the application to become abandoned. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53.

NOTE: For effect on fees of failure to establish status, or change status, as a small entity, see 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(a).

1. Filing fee

- ☐ original patent application
(37 C.F.R. § 1.16(a)—\$740.00; Small entity—\$370.00) \$ _____
- ☐ design application
(37 C.F.R. § 1.16(f)—\$330.00; small entity—\$165.00) \$ _____
- \$ _____

2. Fees for claims

- ☐ each independent claim in excess of 3
(37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b)—\$84.00; small entity—\$42.00) \$ _____
- ☐ each claim in excess of 20
(37 C.F.R. § 1.16(c)—\$18.00; small entity—\$9.00) \$ _____
- ☐ multiple dependent claim(s)
(37 C.F.R. § 1.16(d)—\$280.00; small entity—\$140.00) \$ _____

3. Surcharge fees

- ☒ declaration or oath late payment of filing fee and/or late filing of original (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(e)—\$130.00; small entity—\$65.00); \$ 130.00

NOTE: If both the filing fee and declaration or oath were missing from the original papers, the Office practice under § 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(e) is that only one surcharge Fee need be paid whether the later filed oath or declaration and/or the filing fee are submitted afterwards at the same time or at different times.

4. ☐ Petition and fee for filing by other than all the inventors or a person not the inventor (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17(i) and 1.47—\$130.00) \$ _____
5. ☐ Fee for processing an application filed with a specification in a non-English language (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17(k) and 1.52(d)—\$130.00) \$ _____
6. ☐ Fee for processing and retention of application (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.21(i) and 1.53(d)—\$130.00) \$ _____
7. ☒ Assignment (See "ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEET".)

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.21(i) establishes a fee for processing and retaining any application which is abandoned for failing to complete the application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) and this, as well as, the changes to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.53 and 1.78 indicate that in order to obtain the benefit of a prior U.S. application, either the basic filing fee or the processing and retention fee of § 1.21(i) within 1 year of notification under §1.53(f) must be paid.

Total completion fees \$ 130.00

EXTENSION OF TIME

VII.

(complete (a) or (b), as applicable)

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(b) "... an applicant shall be deemed to have failed to engage in reasonable efforts to conclude processing or examination of an application for the cumulative total of any periods of time in excess of three months that are taken to reply to any notice or action by the Office making any rejection, objection, argument, or other request, measuring such three-month period from the date the notice or action was mailed or given to the applicant, in which case the period of adjustment set forth in § 1.703 shall be reduced by the number of days, if any, beginning on the day after the date that is three months after the date of mailing or transmission of the Office communication notifying the applicant of the rejection, objection, argument, or other request and ending on the date the reply was filed. The period, or shortened statutory period, for reply that is set in the Office action or notice has no effect on the three-month period set forth in this paragraph."

The proceedings herein are for a patent application, and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) apply.

- (a) ☐ Applicant petitions\ for an extension of time, the fees for which are set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1)-(4), for the total number of months checked below:

Extension (months)	Fee for other than small entity	Fee for small entity
<input type="checkbox"/> one month	\$ 110.00	\$ 55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> two months	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> three months	\$ 920.00	\$ 460.00
<input type="checkbox"/> four months	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 720.00

Fee: \$ _____

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor.

(check and complete the next item, if applicable)

- ☐ An extension for _____ months has already been secured, and the fee paid therefor of \$ _____ is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.

Extension f e du with this r quest \$ _____

or

- (b) ☒ Applicant believes that no extension of term is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time.

TOTAL FEE DUE

VIII.

The total fee due is

Completion fee(s) \$ 130.00

Extension fee (if any) \$ _____

Total Fee Due \$ 130.00

PAYMENT OF FEES

IX.

- ☐ Attached is a ☐ check ☐ money order in the amount of \$ _____
- ☒ Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$ 130.00
- ☒ to Deposit Account No. 08-0300
- ☐ to Credit card as shown on the attached credit card information authorization form PTO-2038.

WARNING: Credit card information should *not* be included on this form as it may become public.

- ☒ Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above.

A duplicate of this paper is attached.

AUTH RIZATI N T CHARGE ADDITI NAL FEES

X.

WARNING: Accurately count claims, especially multiple dependant claims, to avoid unexpected high charges if extra claims are authorized.

NOTE: "Amounts of twenty-five dollars or less will not be returned unless specifically requested within a reasonable time, nor will the payer be notified of such amounts; amounts over twenty-five dollars may be returned by check or, if requested, by credit to a deposit account." 37 C.F.R. § 1.26(a).

☒ The Office is hereby authorized to charge, in the manner shown above, the following additional fees that may be required by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application.

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(a), (f) or (g) (filing fees)

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b), (c) and (d) (presentation of extra claims)

NOTE: Because additional fees for excess or multiple dependent claims not paid on filing or on later presentation must only be paid or these claims cancelled by amendment prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the PTO in any notice of fee deficiency (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(d)), it might be best not to authorize the PTO to charge additional claim fees, except possibly when dealing with amendments after final action.

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(e) (surcharge for filing the basic filing fee and/or declaration on a date later than the filing date of the application)

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1)-(5) (extension fees pursuant to § 1.136(a))

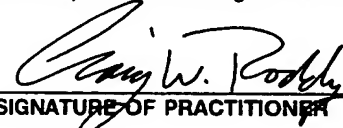
☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (application processing fees)

NOTE: "A written request may be submitted in an application that is an authorization to treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. An authorization to charge all required fees, fees under § 1.17, or all required extension of time fees will be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission. Submission of the fee set forth in § 1.17(a) will also be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission." 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b))

NOTE: Where an authorization to charge the issue fee to a deposit account has been filed before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance, the issue fee will be automatically charged to the deposit account at the time of mailing the notice of allowance. 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b).

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b) requires "Notification of any change in loss of entitlement to small entity status must be filed in the application . . . prior to paying, or at the time of paying . . . issue fee . . ." From the wording of 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(b): (a) notification of change of status must be made even if the fee is paid as "other than a small entity" and (b) no notification is required if the change is to another small entity.


SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Craig W. Roddy
(type or print name of practitioner)

Reg. No. 36,256

Tel. No.: (580) 251-3012

P.O. Box 1431
P.O. Address

Customer No.:

Duncan, OK 73536-0440